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Letter dated 5 January 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2227 (2015), I have the honour to transmit a note verbale dated 22 December 2015 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations, conveying a report to the Council on the implementation of the mandate of French troops in Mali (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

[Original: French]

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and has the honour to transmit the following information.

Pursuant to paragraph 27 of Security Council resolution 2227 (2015), France has the honour to transmit herewith the report on actions undertaken between 1 September and 30 November 2015 by French forces in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.

The Permanent Mission of France would be grateful if the Secretary-General would bring this report to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

Enclosure

[Original: French]

Report on the operational support provided by French forces to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali between 1 September and 30 November 2015

Reference: Security Council resolution 2227 (2015) of 29 June 2015.

This tenth report since the establishment of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) summarizes the activities conducted between 1 September and 30 November 2015 by French forces in support of MINUSMA. Since 1 September 2015, no combat action has been conducted in response to an "imminent and serious threat" to MINUSMA.

It should be noted, however, that French forces have intensified their support for the Mission in various areas, as follows:

- Command: The Barkhane force has been providing nine officers to reinforce understaffed MINUSMA sector headquarters since mid-July 2015;
- Security: The Barkhane force's liaison and operational support detachments have worked alongside MINUSMA to help improve the security of populated areas and transit routes, thereby providing better protection to the population;
- Engineering: The Barkhane force provided engineering support in three ways. First, its explosive ordnance disposal teams carried out emergency work to clear explosives from an earthworks site at the MINUSMA camp in Tessalit. Second, it provided site organization equipment (Bastion wall) and concertina barbed wire free of charge for the refurbishment of the combat outpost protecting the entrance to the Tessalit camp. Third, cooperation (exchange of information, evidence, etc.) on action against improvised explosive devices was strengthened through the establishment in Gao of a Barkhane laboratory specializing in action against such devices in November 2015;
- Health: Operation Barkhane continued to provide medical support; on 8 October 2015 a Togolese peacekeeper with life-threatening injuries was admitted to the French role 2 hospital in Gao, and on 24 November 2015 to two injured Chadian peacekeepers from the MINUSMA battalion in Tessalit were taken into the care of Operation Barkhane at the request of the Chadian doctor and in coordination with the MINUSMA medical emergency coordinator;
- Operational military support: Operation Barkhane continued to deliver a large number of operational training sessions to the MINUSMA forces based in Tessalit and Kidal.